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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

7/31/2007 12:22:46 PM - Email Acknowledgement sent to texmich077@aol.com.

TEXMICH077@aol.com wrote on 7/29/2007 11:23:44 AM :

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a deaf person and I use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate. I was appalled to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

I, along with other Deaf individuals, use these services in both my work and personal life. It is an important way in which I/we communicate with both hearing and deaf individuals. I urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Improve service and technology so the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for functionally equivalent telecommunications services is met

I, along with other deaf individuals, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services.

Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Thank you.
Robert Chaffin

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